

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
4016 WEST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MARCH 2, 2006, 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Charles Yates, Chairman, Richard E. Railey; Participating by Telephone, Thomas A. Stroup and Sherry Smith Crumley; **Senior Staff**, Colonel W. Gerald Massengill, Interim Director, Ray Davis, Bob Duncan, Gary Martel, Charlie Sledd and David Whitehurst

Chairman Yates called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Staff confirmed that Ms. Crumley and Mr. Stroup were on line.

David Whitehurst was recognized. The following draft policies were distributed to the Committee for review: (1) Comprehensive Management of Ecosystems, Habitats, and Fish and Wildlife Populations, (2) Conservation of Endangered and Threatened Species, (3) Evaluation of and Response to the Changing Landscape of Virginia, (4) Wildlife- and Boat-Related Recreation, (5) Conservation and Safety Education, (6) Human Resource Management, (7) Strategic Planning, (8) Agreements changed from Corporate Agreements, (9) Department Infrastructure, (10) Financial Management, and (11) Adoption of Policy.

The Committee concurred that it would recommend policies 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 10 to the full Board for action.

Upon discussion, the Committee recommended amendments to policies 4, 8, 9, and 11. The Committee felt that the word “provides” in the last bullet in policy 4 should be changed to “encourages”.

The Committee felt that the policy entitled “Corporate Agreements”, number 8 should be amended and named “Agreements with Individuals and Entities” and requested that the word “corporations” be changed to “individuals and entities”.

The Committee requested amendments to the policy entitled “Department Infrastructure”, number 9. Members suggested replacing the last sentence in the policy with “Notwithstanding the above, the Board reserves the authority, upon reasonable justification, to name the facilities differently.”

The Committee recommended deleting the last paragraph in policy #11 entitled “Adoption of Policy”.

Mr. Whitehurst noted that staff is working on a draft policy regarding the Board's regulatory process, with the focus on returning to a two-year review process. It is also felt that the public input meetings are not an effective outreach tool and meetings/focus with constituent groups is more effective.

Prior to adjournment, staff was thanked for its efforts. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Colonel Massengill then briefed the four Board members on issues relating to SB 718 that would provide additional funding to the Hunters for the Hungry program by increasing state resident and nonresident hunting license fees by \$1.00 and \$2.00. Staff has been advised by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the enabling legislation would create a diversion factor and put the Department's federal funds at risk. Staff will work with the bill patron, Senator Stolle, to address the problem.

The telephone call ended at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Belle Harding
Board Secretary